



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/643,241	08/18/2003	Cheng-Hwa Liu	252011-1180	3277

47390 7590 12/28/2005

THOMAS, KAYDEN, HOSTEMEYER & RISLEY LLP  
100 GALLERIA PARKWAY  
SUITE 1750  
ATLANTA, GA 30339

EXAMINER

CAO, PHUONG-THAO

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2164

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/643,241	Applicant(s) LIU ET AL.	
	Examiner Phuong-Thao Cao	Art Unit 2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to Application filed on 08/18/2003.
2. Claims 1-20 are pending.

#### *Claim Objections*

3. Claim 20 is objected to because of the following informalities: “system” in line 1 is considered as “method”. Appropriate correction is required.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pape et al. (US Patent No 6,664,897).

As to claim 1, Pape et al. teach:

“A symmetry database system for a data processing system” (see [column 18, lines 15-35]),  
comprising:

“a data source for storing source data” (see [column 29, lines 15-35] and [column 18, lines 20-30] wherein “PERD transaction databases” or “source database” is equivalent to Applicant’s “data source for storing source data”);

“a data preparation platform to filter the source data into a symmetry data source” (see e.g., [column 18, lines 20-35] wherein data from transaction databases is equivalent to Applicant’s “source data”, “data marts” is equivalent to Applicant’s “symmetry data source” and the disclosure of extracting data to create data marts as disclosed implies the inclusion of a data preparation platform to filter the source data as illustrated in Applicant’s claim language);

“a plurality of process engines to fetch data from the symmetry data source and generate results according to the data” (see [column 18, lines 20-35] and [column 30, lines 5-25] wherein each of processing supply chain entities or data distribution centers implies a process engine as illustrated in Application’s claim language).

As to claim 2, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above for rejected claim 1 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Pape et al. teach:

“wherein the data source comprises a plurality of databases, the symmetry data source comprises a plurality of symmetry databases, and the data preparation platform filter data from the plurality of databases into corresponding symmetry databases” (see [column 18, lines 20-35] and [column 29, lines 5-55] wherein “PERD transaction databases” is equivalent to Applicant’s

“data source”, “data marts” is equivalent to Applicant’s “symmetry data source” and the creation of data marts as disclosed implies the inclusion of a data preparation platform as illustrated in Applicant’s claim language, also see [column 42, lines 14-25]).

As to claim 3, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above for rejected claim 2 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Pape et al. teach:

“logic for aligning data in the data source to link the databases in the data source” (see e.g., [column 26, lines 53] discloses the import of data in form of one animal per row with animal attributes in each column of the row, from any databases and tables; this implies the aligning data as illustrated in Applicant’s claim language);

“logic for nature-checking the aligned data” (see e.g., [column 21, lines 55-67] disclose that data is enforced to be created with acceptable values, limits, ranges and/or formats; this implies the inclusion of a checking method which is equivalent to Applicant’s “nature-checking”); and

“logic for checking the aligned data by applying business rules of the process engines to filter the data that does not pass the business rules, so as to generate the symmetry data source” (see [column 22, lines 10-20], [column 25, lines 40-60], [column 26, lines 1-25] wherein components database or data marts represent Applicant’s “symmetry data source”).

As to claim 4, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above for rejected claim 3 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Pape et al. teach:

“logic for filtering the aligned data using a flexible filter to generate the symmetry data source” (see [column 26, line 1-25] wherein the user interfaces to provide means of extracting specific data for data marts (equivalent to Applicant’s “symmetry data source”) is equivalent to Applicant’s “flexible filter”).

As to claim 5, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above for rejected claim 3 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Pape et al. teach:

“logic for listing primary keys of source tables in the data source” (see [column 44, lines 1-60] wherein Animal ID, carcass ID, Batch ID, Primal ID are primary key of source tables);

“logic for finding popular items according to a frequency of the primary keys in the source tables and the business rules of the processing engines” (see [column 44, lines 30] wherein Animal ID, Carcass ID, Batch ID and Primal ID are popular items according to business rules [column 45, lines 10-13] as illustrated in Applicant’s claim language); and

“logic for finding at least one critical item from the popular item, whereby the databases in the data source can be linked using at least one critical item” (see e.g., [column 44, lines 1-40] discloses that the data warehouse is typically maintained to identify each entity which implied the inclusion of a logic of finding at least one critical item to link databases in data warehouse (equivalent to Applicant’s “data source”) as illustrated in Applicant’s claim language).

As to claim 6, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above for rejected claim 1 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Pape et al. teach:

“a plurality of data generators corresponding to each process engine to fetch data needed by each process engine from the symmetry data source” (see [column 28, lines 25-35] wherein “data marts” is equivalent to Applicant’s “symmetry data source”, each of “processing supply chain entities is equivalent to Applicant’s “process engine”, and the extraction of data from data marts by the processing supply chain entities implies the inclusion of a plurality of data generators as illustrated in Applicant’s claim language).

As to claim 7, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above for rejected claim 1 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Pape et al. teach:

“an application interface to provide users with access to the data source in real time” (see [column 17, lines 35-50], [column 27, lines 30-55] and [column 28, lines 5-15]).

As to claim 8, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above for rejected claim 7 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Pape et al. teach:

“a monitor unit to monitor access of the data source through the application interface, and notify administrators or other responsible parties if a process engine crashes or result errors occur” (see [column 22, lines 5-25] wherein notification and messaging with error logging

implies the inclusion of a monitor unit as illustrated in Applicant's claim language; also see [column 24, lines 4-10] and [column 28, lines 5-40]).

As to claim 9, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above for rejected claim 8 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Pape et al. teach:

“wherein the monitor unit further identifies and repairs problems corresponding to process engine crashes or result errors according to the data source and the symmetry data source” (see [column 30, lines 5-12] wherein “Pony Express server” is equivalent to Applicant's “data source”, “CISData mart” is equivalent to Applicant's “symmetry data source”, and “locating and correcting errors in existing data” is equivalent to Applicant's “identifies and repairs problems...”).

As to claim 10, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above for rejected claim 1 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Pape et al. teach:

“wherein the process engines are serial data process engines” (see e.g., [column 18, lines 25-35] and [column 42, lines 15-65] wherein processing supply chain entities are equivalent to Applicant's “process engines” and the description of data flow in the supply chain implies these supply chain entities related as serial process engines as in Applicant's claim language).



As to claims 11-20, these claims are rejected based on arguments given above for rejected claims 1-10 and are similarly rejected.

*Conclusion*


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuong-Thao Cao whose telephone number is (571) 272-2735. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Mon - Fri).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PTC

December 21, 2005

  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2167